

COVID-19

Thursday, July 2, 2020

GOV. INSLEE PRESS CONFERENCE

During a press conference on Thursday, July 2, Governor Jay Inslee announced a pause on the phased reopening of counties as well as new statewide rules regarding face coverings.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY DAILY BRIEFING

Governor Announces Two-Week Pause on Phases, New Mask Rules for Businesses

During a press conference on Thursday, July 2, Governor Jay Inslee announced a pause on the phased reopening of counties as well as new statewide rules regarding face coverings.

The Governor is putting a two-week pause on any county in the state moving forward in the phases, starting immediately. No applications will be considered until July 16. That means it will be a minimum of two more weeks before Snohomish County can seek approval to move from Phase 2 to Phase 3. The County and Health District still will need to evaluate whether Snohomish County is meeting health and safety requirements before applying.

Also, starting Tuesday, July 7, businesses in Washington must refuse service to customers without a face covering unless the customer informs the business they have a medical exemption. This expands to the rest of the state a rule that had been put in place in Yakima County. It is in addition to the existing statewide order that requires people to wear a face cover when they are in public.

"Like Governor Inslee and Secretary Wiesman, we are very concerned about the recent increase in cases being reported. This is what caused us last week to put a pause on plans for Phase 3. The numbers have continued to go in the wrong direction, with our case rates having doubled in Snohomish County since the beginning of June," said Dr. Chris Spitters, health officer for the Snohomish Health District. "This is not due to an increase in testing. The number of tests submitted weekly has been stable, but the numbers of positive results are increasing. Local health care providers are also reporting increased demand for testing from people with COVID symptoms.

"We are in a very precarious situation and need everyone in Snohomish County working together to again flatten the curve and get back on track. If we all follow the guidelines for Phase 2, limit non-essential trips, wear face coverings when out of the home, maintain that social distancing, and practice good hand hygiene, we'll hopefully be in a better position to move forward when eligible."

To watch the Governor's press conference, go to <https://www.tvw.org/>.

Question

When will Snohomish County move to Phase 3?

Answer

We don't have a date. It will be a minimum of two more weeks before we can apply.

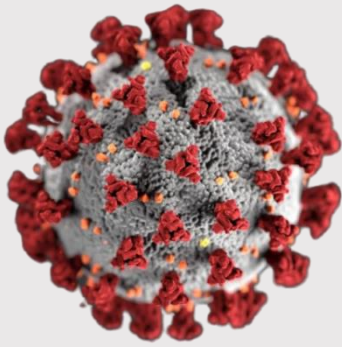
The Governor has announced a two-week pause on any county proceeding to the next phase in the Safe Start plan.

In many ways, this does not change our approach to the phased reopening. We are not in a position to meet the health and safety requirements for Phase 3 at this time. We continue to monitor key metrics like the rate of new cases, testing and contact tracing capabilities, hospital capacity, and COVID-related deaths.

It is important that we take the time needed to reopen safely. We are grateful for everything people are doing to keep Snohomish County healthy.

July 2, 2020





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REMINDER: USE 911 ONLY FOR EMERGENCIES DURING FOURTH OF JULY WEEKEND

For complaints about fireworks, noise, and large parties, the non-emergency number is (425) 407-3999.

Reminder: Use 911 Only for Emergencies During Fourth of July Weekend

The Fourth of July holiday will be different this year because of COVID-19, but emergency dispatchers are bracing for the usual flurry of calls. For complaints about fireworks, noise and large parties, the non-emergency number is (425) 407-3999.



Did you know...the 4th of July holiday is one of the busiest for our local first responders?

Help prevent unnecessary calls:

No large gatherings and only use fireworks where permitted.

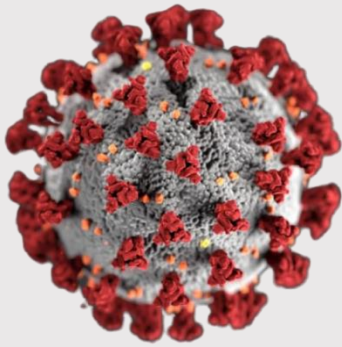
Only call 911 if there's an emergency.

Don't engage with people regarding issues with parties or fireworks.

Remember that police and fire will be responding to calls based on priority and availability.

See something concerning, but not life-threatening?
Call your local police and fire non-emergency number.





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CELEBRATING THE 4TH OF JULY HOLIDAY DURING COVID-19

Check local listings for events in your area.

Celebrating the 4th of July Holiday During COVID-19

In order to keep our communities safe and healthy, many local jurisdictions have modified 4th of July plans to allow for virtual celebrations and social distancing. From a fireworks show that is visible from your home in Marysville to "porch parades" that bring the celebration to your neighborhoods in Arlington and Bothell, local officials are finding creative ways to mark the holiday.

Check local listings for events in your area.

City of Marysville

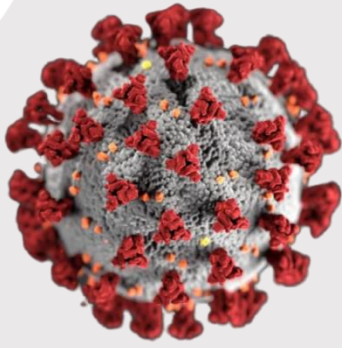


City of Arlington's "Drive By 4th of July"



City of Bothell's "Porch Parade"





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COMMUNITY TRANSIT RESTORING SOME TRIPS CUT DUE TO COVID-19

Starting July 6, most local Snohomish County routes will see some trips added back. These routes were cut during the initial days of the COVID-19 pandemic in response to low demand.

EVERETT AQUASOX 2020 SEASON CANCELED

Minor League baseball is canceled for 2020. See details from the Everett AquaSox at right.

TEDXSNOISLELIBRARIES 2020 BEGINS WITH PROBLEM-SOLVING, GARDENING, CIVILITY

Speakers for TEDxSnolsleLibraries2020 will present their unique ideas through 15 separate online events this summer. It kicks off July 9.

Community Transit Restoring Some Routes Cut Due to COVID-19

[Service changes](#) are coming Monday for Community Transit, including trips added back that were cut due to the pandemic. Trips have also been added on most routes to the University District. Low demand for service into downtown Seattle continues; only Routes 412 & 435 will have trips added. Preview the new schedules at <https://bit.ly/2ZhTedO>.

Everett AquaSox 2020 Season Canceled

On Tuesday, June 30, 2020, Major League Baseball (MLB) informed Minor League Baseball (MiLB) that it will not be providing its affiliated MiLB teams with players for the 2020 season. As a result, there will not be a MiLB season. This announcement [officially cancels](#) the 2020 AquaSox season and marks the first MiLB season to be canceled since its inception in 1901.

"We hoped baseball would return to Funko Field this summer, but as time progressed, the season became less likely," said AquaSox General Manager Danny Tetzlaff. "The continued health and safety of our fans, employees, players and the entire AquaSox baseball community is our top priority. As always, we will continue to support our community during this challenging time and look forward to having AquaSox baseball back at Funko Field in 2021."

Funko Field at Everett Memorial Stadium has been home to professional baseball every summer since the Everett Giants' first season in 1984. While the stands will remain empty for the time being, the AquaSox are looking into innovative ways to connect with fans this summer. Ballpark events will only be held if proper health and safety protocols can be met.

The AquaSox are grateful for the support they have received from the Everett community over the past couple of months. Ticket plan holders, corporate partners and group outing leaders can expect to hear from their representatives to discuss their options moving forward.

TEDxSnolsleLibraries 2020 Begins with Problem-Solving, Gardening, Civility

[TEDxSnolsleLibraries 2020](#) will happen this year, just not quite the way Sno-Ile Libraries originally planned. Speakers will present their unique ideas through 15 separate online events. Each online event will present a different idea in a unique, premier presentation followed by a hosted interactive Q&A session.

And, you can choose how you want to participate, whether it's through Zoom, Facebook or YouTube.

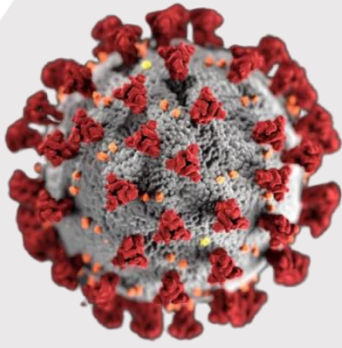
All [TEDxSnolsleLibraries talks](#) will be presented in Zoom meetings. The event host will introduce the speaker's pre-recorded TEDx talk followed by a live question-and-answer session with the speaker(s).

The first three presenters for [TEDxSnolsleLibraries 2020](#) are ready to share their stories.

The initial lineup of talks on July 9 and 11 includes discussions on community problem-solving, the merits of gardening and civility.

At 11 a.m. July 9, Oak Harbor High School students Holly Lewis, Elisabeth Ince and Molly Zimmerman will launch TEDxSnolsleLibraries with their talk, "Embrace the Chance to Solve Problems in Your Community."

On July 11, two TEDxSnolsleLibraries 2020 talks are scheduled. Jodi Crimmins leads off at 9 a.m. with her TEDx talk, "How School Gardens Empower



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SNOHOMISH COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS UP 13%

In Snohomish County, initial regular claims filed increased 13% from the week before.

Young People." Following Crimmins at 11 a.m. July 11, Kate Bracy wants to improve everyone's civility with her TEDx talk, "Quickly Learn to Stay Civil Most of the Time – Here's the Secret You Can Master by Tomorrow."

It all starts July 9: <http://ow.ly/gFkt50AobAx>

Snohomish County Unemployment Claims Up 13%

During the week of June 21 through June 27, there were 31,911 initial regular unemployment claims (up 7.8% from the prior week) and 696,272 total claims for all unemployment benefit categories (down 3.1% from the prior week) filed by Washingtonians, according to the Employment Security Department (ESD). In Snohomish County, initial regular claims filed increased from 3,458 to 3,911 up 13 percent from the week before.

- Initial regular claims applications remain at unprecedented elevated levels and are at 473 percent above last year's weekly new claims applications.
- Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) initial claims as well as continued/ongoing claims all declined over the previous week.

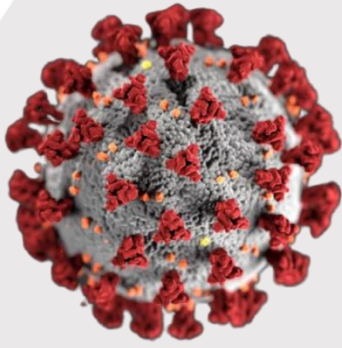
ESD paid out over \$477.3 million for 394,910 individual claims – a decrease of \$55.5 million and 15,942 less individual claims from the prior week.

Since the week ending March 7 when COVID-19 job losses began

- A total of 2,143,073 initial claims have been filed during the pandemic (1,340,721 regular unemployment insurance, 431,002 PUA and 371,350 PEUC)
- A total of 1,200,639 distinct individuals have filed for unemployment benefits
- ESD has paid out over \$6.7 billion in benefits
- 866,416 individuals who have filed an initial claim have been paid

"New unemployment claims, while down significantly from the peak of the crisis, remain at record-high levels," said ESD Commissioner Suzi LeVine. "This is the second week in a row we've seen a slight increase in initial claims, indicating furloughs or layoffs in some sectors like accommodation & food services and retail. ESD is committed to helping eligible Washingtonians get unemployment benefits as quickly as possible and supporting both workers and employers as they navigate the changing workforce landscape. One example of how ESD can help is with the [SharedWork program](#). This is a great option for employers looking to avoid layoffs or slowly ramp up re-hiring during this crisis. And, because it's fully funded by federal funding as a result of the CARES Act, using it does not impact a business' experience rating. I encourage employers who are struggling to learn more at esd.wa.gov/SharedWork."





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NEW COVID-19 REPORTS SHOW CONCERNING PATTERNS OF INEQUITY, RISE IN CASES AMONG YOUNGER PEOPLE

Today the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) and Bellevue-based Institute for Disease Modeling (IDM) released two new reports analyzing COVID-19 data by age, race/ethnicity and primary language spoken. Both reports highlight the pandemic's disproportionate and increasing impact on communities of color. The IDM report also points to recent increases in COVID-19 among younger people.



New COVID-19 Reports Show Concerning Patterns of Inequity, Rise in Cases Among Younger People

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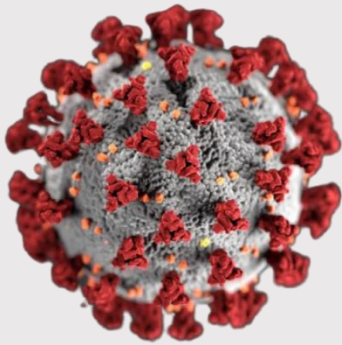
DOH overview of race, ethnicity and language impacts throughout the pandemic

[DOH's report](#) analyzes data for the entire pandemic to date, from the earliest cases of COVID-19 in Washington state through the end of June. It includes confirmed COVID-19 case, hospitalization and death rates by race and ethnicity for the state as a whole and by region. The report also includes percentages of cases and hospitalizations by the patient's primary language spoken, and will be updated regularly.

Report findings include:

- Case rates over the pandemic for Hispanic people and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander people are nine times higher than those of White people. Hospitalization rates are seven times higher for Hispanics and ten times higher for Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders than those of White people. Case and hospitalization rates for Black people and American Indian or Alaska Native people are three times higher than those of White people.
- Compared to White people, death rates are over three times higher among Hispanic people and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander people, twice as high among American Indian or Alaska Native people, and over 50 percent higher among Black and Asian people.
- Analysis of these rates by region shows COVID-19 is found in significant numbers across racial and ethnic groups throughout the state and is not confined to certain areas, such as rural, urban or suburban regions.
- While limited data on primary language must be interpreted with caution, this analysis provides additional insight into community-specific impacts and related inequities. For example, high rates of hospitalizations among people whose primary language is not English or Spanish suggests these populations may be experiencing more severe disease due to increased exposures and/or barriers to quality and affordable care.

"We know the COVID-19 pandemic has intensified the health inequities historically marginalized and oppressed communities already experience," said Dr. Kathy Lofy, state health officer at DOH. "These data are deeply



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WASHINGTON STATE FERRIES SAY EXPECT REDUCED SCHEDULES AND EXTENDED WAIT TIMES

Due to crew shortages, the Mukilteo-Clinton and Edmonds-Kingston ferry routes will be on one-boat service on weekends during the month of July.

concerning and underline the critical need to address the COVID-19 impacts we're currently seeing by prioritizing outreach, testing, education and related materials for disproportionately impacted communities in ways that are culturally and linguistically appropriate and accessible."

DOH will monitor this data for changing trends to inform the state's COVID-19 response.

IDM analysis of changing age and racial demographics

[IDM's report](#) examines changes in the age and race of COVID-19 cases over time. Report findings include:

- Cases have recently been shifting to younger age groups. People under age 35 represented 22 percent of cases from January to March, and by May/June represented 46 percent of cases.
- Cases are increasingly concentrated in Hispanic people, who have accounted for 58 percent of COVID-19 cases with known race and ethnicity since the beginning of May despite making up only 13 percent of the state's population. Hispanic people may be at higher risk of infections for several reasons, including living in larger households, limited access to healthcare and working in essential services.
- Recent data show Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander people have the highest risk of disease on a per capita basis.
- During May and June, Hispanic people were 13 times more likely and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander people were 17 times more likely to get COVID-19 compared to White people.
- The groups experiencing a higher COVID-19 burden in June are largely the same groups that have been disproportionately impacted in previous months, but the disparities among groups are widening.

"Public health interventions worked early in the COVID-19 epidemic to control cases, but communities of color experienced less of that benefit," said Dr. Marita Zimmermann, research economist at IDM. "Now more and more young people of color in Washington are getting infected. COVID-19 exploits the inequities in health and wellbeing in our society, and this analysis sheds light on the people most in need of protection."

You can find more COVID-19 data on the [DOH data dashboard](#) and [IDM's InfoHub](#).

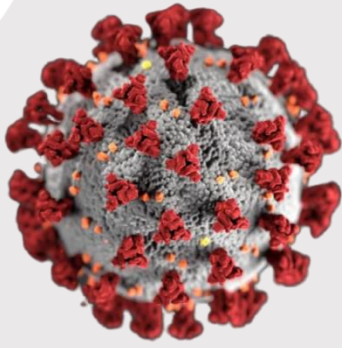
IDM shapes global efforts to eradicate infectious diseases and to achieve permanent improvements in the health of those most in need. By developing, using, and freely sharing computational modeling tools, we advise policymakers, promote quantitative decision-making and advance scientific methodologies.

IDM is an institute within the Global Good Fund, a collaboration between Intellectual Ventures and Bill and Melinda Gates.

IDM is contributing modeling and analytic services to local and state governments to support COVID-19 response efforts.

Washington State Ferries Say Expect Reduced Schedules and Extended Wait Times

[Washington State Ferries](#) is telling passengers to [plan and prepare for extended waits](#). Several routes are operating on reduced schedules dependent on their [COVID Response Service Plan](#). With more than 100 high-risk employees unavailable due to the pandemic, crewing has been a challenge. Due to a lack of crewmembers needed to meet U.S. Coast Guard safety requirements, there have been further schedule reductions over the past few weekends. The Mukilteo-Clinton and Edmonds-Kingston



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CDC SUGGESTS WAYS TO REDUCE YOUR STRESS

If you or a loved one is feeling overwhelmed, get support 24/7 by calling 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746.

CDC OFFERS RIDESHARE SAFETY TIPS

The CDC has released new tips for using rideshares or taxis safely.

NO DAILY BRIEFING TOMORROW, JULY 3

The Daily Briefing will resume publication Monday, July 6.

route will be on one-boat service on weekends during the month of July, starting this Fourth of July weekend due to crew shortages.

CDC Suggests Ways to Reduce Your Stress



CDC Environment @CDCEEnvironment · Jun 26

Everyone reacts differently to stressful situations like #COVID19. You may feel anxiousness, anger, sadness, or overwhelmed. If you or a loved one is feeling overwhelmed, get support 24/7 by calling 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746. Learn more: bit.ly/39UVoEj

REDUCE YOUR STRESS:

- Know the **common signs of stress**.
- Talk with **family and friends** by **phone, text, or email**.
- Take breaks from **news stories, including social media**.
- Practice **healthy habits, including exercise**.



CDC Offers Rideshare Safety Tips

As schools, businesses, and community organizations begin providing services, consider ways that you can protect yourself and slow the spread of COVID-19 when using transportation. When you consider your options, think about what is feasible, practical, and acceptable to you and meets your needs.

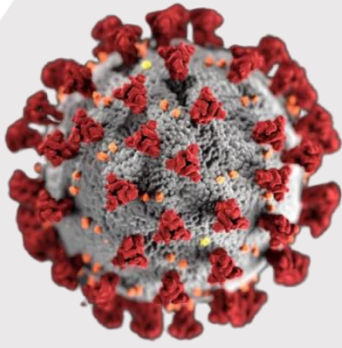
If you plan to use rideshares or taxis, in addition to wearing a face covering, the CDC recommends the following precautions:

- Avoid touching surfaces
- Practice social distancing
- Improve ventilation
- Practice hand hygiene

Visit the CDC's [webpage to learn more](https://www.cdc.gov/transportation/safety/tips).

No Daily Briefing Tomorrow, July 3

In observance of Independence Day, the Daily Briefing will not publish Friday, July 3. Publication will resume Monday, July 6.



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CONFIRMED AND PROBABLE CASES OF COVID-19 IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Data on case counts are available on the Snohomish Health District [website](#) and the Washington State Department of Health [dashboard](#).

ESSENTIAL LINKS AND PHONE NUMBERS FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION

- [Snohomish Health District](#)
- [Snohomish County](#)
- [Snohomish County COVID-19 Response & Community Resource Hub](#)
- [Washington State](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- Snohomish County COVID-19 Phone Line: **425-388-3944**
- Washington State COVID-19 Hotline: Call **1-800-525-0127** or text **211-211** for help. For information to be texted to you, text **Coronavirus** to **211-211**.

Confirmed and Probable Cases of COVID-19 in Snohomish County (as of July 2, 2020)

| Case Count | Last Updated: 1:15 p.m. |
|------------|------------------------------|
| Confirmed | 3,630 (up 49 cases from 7/1) |
| Probable | 483 |
| Deaths | 171 |

| Jurisdiction | Last Updated: 1:15 p.m. |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Arlington | 156 (129 recovered) |
| Bothell* | 271 (213 recovered) |
| Brier | 23 (23 recovered) |
| Darrington | <5 (<5 recovered) |
| Edmonds | 401 (333 recovered) |
| Everett | 1,219 (957 recovered) |
| Gold Bar | <5 (<5 recovered) |
| Granite Falls | 31 (30 recovered) |
| Index | 0 |
| Lake Stevens | 163 (124 recovered) |
| Lynnwood | 723 (640 recovered) |
| Marysville | 364 (245 recovered) |
| Mill Creek | 63 (53 recovered) |
| Monroe | 103 (87 recovered) |
| Mountlake Terrace | 130 (114 recovered) |
| Mukilteo | 78 (71 recovered) |
| Snohomish | 190 (160 recovered) |
| Stanwood | 129 (104 recovered) |
| Sultan | 11 (8 recovered) |
| Tulalip | 28 (23 recovered) |
| Unknown/Other | <5 (<5 recovered) |
| Woodinville* | 13 (11 recovered) |
| Woodway | 8 (8 recovered) |

Numbers less than 5 are suppressed to protect medical privacy. Unknown includes cases still under investigation. *Counts are for portions in Snohomish County only.